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# Message Text

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44
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11

LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 IO-14 /156 W
---------- 023014
R 091730Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4848
INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 5550

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS GR
SUBJ: PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE KKE LEGALIZATION

1. FOLLOWING BROAD PRESS COVERAGE OF GOG'S ALLEGED POSITION LOOKING TOWARD POSSIBLE LEGALIZATION OF GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY (KKE), ATHENS NEWS REPORTED AUGUST 9 THAT "RELIABLE SOURCES" SAID YESTERDAY THAT GOG DOES NOT INTEND FOR TIME BEING TO CONSIDER QUESTION OF LEGALIZING KKE. SAME SOURCES REPORTEDLY ADDED THIS QUESTION WOULD BE EXAMINED DURING SECOND PHASE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITY (RESTORATION OF POLITICAL NORMALITY). EARLY THIS WEEK TO VIMA AND TA NEA (C. LAMBRAKIS' LIBERAL PAPERS) CARRIED ARTICLES INDICATING PM CARAMANLIS ADVOCATES INCLUDING KKE IN LEGAL POLITICAL FRAMEWORK AND THAT OVER YEAR AGO DEPUTY PM MAVROS AND MINISTER TO PM RALLIS RECOMMENDED LEFT WING BE LEGALLY INCLUDED IN GREEK POLITICS. TA NEA OBSERVED IN EVENT LEGISLATION OUTLAWING COMMUNIST ACTIVITY, LAWS 509 AND 375, WERE RESCINDED TWO PARTIES WOULD REPRESENT LEFT, KKE AND EDA.

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2. ALL NEWSPAPERS, WITH AVQHI AND ATHINAIKI TAKING LEAD,

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REPORTED MEETING AUGUST 7 BETWEEN B. DRACOPOULOS AND C. PHILLINIS OF KKE (INTERIOR) AND MINISTER TO PRIME MINISTER GEORGE RALLIS. DRACOPOULOS AND PHILLINIS EMPHASIZED URGENT NEED FOR PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, OF ALL POLITICAL FORCES. STORIES UNDERSCORED POINT THAT COMMUNIST LEADERS URGED ABOLITION OF LAWS 509 AND 375, THUS LEGALIZING KKE AND ENABLING ALL GREEK POLITICAL PARTIES TO FUNCTION FREELY. ACCORDING TO PRESS LEFTIST LEADERS PRESS TO RESTORE TRADE UNION FREEDOMS AND DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES IN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. NEWS ACCOUNTS INDICATED ISSUES OF SOCIAL POLICIES IN CITIES AND RURAL AREAS AND WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED.

3. VIEWS OF POLITICALLY PROMINENT CABINET MEMBERS GEORGE MAVROS, GEORGE RALLIS, GEORGE MYLONAS AND JOHN PESMAZOGLOU HAVE BEEN QUOTED IN PRESS AS SUPPORTING LEGALIZATION OF COMMUNIST PARTY. ATHENS POST IN OPINION COLUMN ARGUED THAT LEGALIZATION OF KKE WOULD PREVENT COMMUNISTS FROM ENGAGING IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AND WOULD ALLOW INDEPENDENT STATE AUTHORITIES TO DETERMINE LEGAL LIMITS WITHIN WHICH POLITICAL PARTIES INCLUDING KKE WOULD BE OBLIGED TO OPERATE. TASCA

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**Subject:** PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE KKE LEGALIZATION
**TAGS:** PINS, GR, GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY, (DRACOPOULOS), (PHILLINIS), (RALLIS, GEORGE)
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